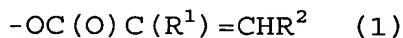


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows (the changes are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter and underlining for added matter). A complete listing of the claims is set out below with proper claim identifiers.

1. (Original) A process for producing a vinyl polymer terminated with a group having a polymerizable carbon-carbon double bond in the presence of a stable free radical.

2. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the group having the polymerizable carbon-carbon double bond in the vinyl polymer is represented by formula (1) :



(wherein R¹ and R² are the same or different and each represent hydrogen or an organic group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms).

3. (Original) The process according to claim 2, wherein in formula (1), R¹ and R² are the same or different and each represent hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

4. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~claim 2 or 3~~claim 2, wherein in formula (1), R¹ and R² are the same or different and each represent hydrogen, methyl, phenyl, or 1-propenyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is a (meth)acrylic polymer.

6. (Original) The process according to claim 5,
wherein the vinyl polymer is an acrylic ester polymer.

7. (Currently Amended) The process according to
~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is
a styrene polymer.

8. (Currently Amended) The process according to
~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is
produced by living radical polymerization.

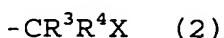
9. (Original) The process according to claim 8,
wherein the living radical polymerization is atom transfer
radical polymerization.

10. (Original) The process according to claim 9,
wherein the atom transfer radical polymerization is performed
using a complex of a metal selected from the group consisting
of copper, nickel, ruthenium, and iron.

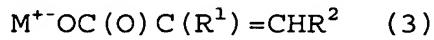
11. (Original) The process according to claim 10,
wherein a copper complex is used.

12. (Currently Amended) The process according to
~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is
produced by polymerizing a vinyl monomer using a chain
transfer agent.

13. (Currently Amended) The process according to
~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is
produced by reaction between a vinyl polymer having a terminal
structure represented by formula (2):

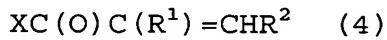


(wherein R³ and R⁴ each represent a group bonded to an ethylenically unsaturated group of a vinyl monomer, and X represents chlorine, bromine, or iodine), and a compound represented by formula (3) :



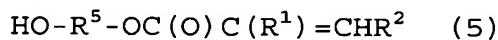
(wherein R¹ and R² are the same or different and each represent hydrogen or an organic group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and M⁺ represents an alkali metal or quaternary ammonium ion).

14. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is produced by reaction between a vinyl polymer terminated with a hydroxyl group and a compound represented by formula (4) :



(wherein R¹ and R² are the same or different and each represent hydrogen or an organic group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and X represents chlorine, bromine, or a hydroxyl group).

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer is produced by reaction between a vinyl polymer terminated with an isocyanate group and a compound represented by formula (5) :



(wherein R¹ and R² are the same or different and each represent hydrogen or an organic group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R⁵ represents a divalent organic group having 2 to 20 carbon atoms).

16. (Currently Amended) The process according to
~~any one of claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer
has a number-average molecular weight of 2,000 or more.

17. (Currently Amended) The process according to
~~any one of claims 1 to 16~~claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer
has a ratio (Mw/Mn) of a weight-average molecular weight (Mw)
to a number-average molecular weight (Mn) of less than 1.8
according to gel permeation chromatographic measurement.